NENYOS NEWSLETTER

North Eastern New York Orchid Society

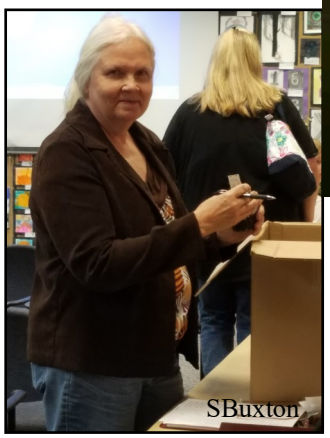
nenyosorchids@gmail.com

June 2017

www.nenyos.com

The Magnificent Stanhopea

Linda Wilhelm from North Carolina came to the May meeting with plants to sell and a great info filled presentation. She provided an interesting perspective on these very different plants. Very few of our members grow them but she was encouraging of their attributes and growing realities.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While Stanhopea flowers can be short lived, the plants produce numerous infloresences during the year, providing lots of color opportunities. Native to areas from Mexico, south through Central America to Brazil, Peru and Bolivia, Stanhopeas are unique orchids with complex blooms. They have channeled walkways to facilitate pollination.

The Lip is one of the most significant parts of the flower, containing three parts (hypochile, mesochile and epichile). Petals on the flowers generally wing back.

Stanhopeas hold the distinction of having some of the heaviest orchid flowers – up to 17 cms across. They generally have 2-3 flowers/plant when blooming.

LWilhelm

Stan. Nigroviolacea

As undergrowth plants, they do not like bright light. They need lots of water when they begin actively growing. During the plant's initial growth phase, you have to be careful to not overwater because it causes rot inside the plant and/or the bloom spike.

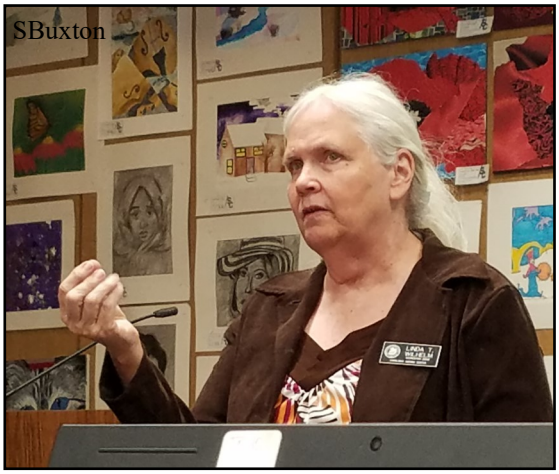
These thin leaved plants need extra calcium and magnesium for plant health especially when growth starts. Linda said she only fertilizes once per month because too much causes crappy growth.

An interesting fact about Stanhopea culture relates to why most growers use wire baskets to grow plants. If you use a wooden basket, with 50% of space enclosed, the developing flower spike will stop and cease developing if it hits a slat. The openness of the wire basket allows the bloom spikes to push through.

Linda described using a three layer system; long coconut fiber to hold the bark mix in the basket, seedling bark and then a layer of spaghnum moss. The plants also grow well on tree slabs. They also do well as large plant clumps.

Growing these plants can be a satisfying and rewarding addition to a collection.

By Sandy Buxton II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June 2017

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Upcoming Meetings

June 3- Piping Rock Orchids Open House, Galway

July—no meeting

August 5—Annual Picnic in Scotia

September 10—co-hosting International Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting in Voorheesville

October 7—Tom Biggart at William Sanford Library in Colonie

November 4—Annual Auction in Colonie

December 2—Holiday Event in Colonie

The Newsletter is looking for other members interested in being columnists, photos or helping out. Please email buxtonsandy@gmail.com if you are interested!

MAKING IT WORK FOR NENYOS OFFICERS FOR 2017

Donna Wardlaw	Co-President
Janet Vinyard	Co-President & Treasurer
Deb Lambeth	Secretary
Sandy Buxton	Director
Mark Conley	Director
Alex Shepherd	Website
Stan Lee	Past President
Sandy Buxton	AOS Rep
Patty Boggs	Name Tags
Joan Gardner	Refreshments
Bob Odess	Raffle Greeter

NENYOS Contact: nenyosorchids@gmail.com

Sandy Buxton Newsletter Editor

Upcoming Events in the Northeast

May 20 - 21, 2017 Southern Tier Orchid Society Annual Show, Oakdale Mall, 601-605 Harry L. Drive, Johnson City, NY. For more info, contact Anne Quain 607-797-1383 or anneetinker@yahoo.com

June 2 - 4, 2017 Long Island Orchid Society "4th Annual Orchid Festival" Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park, 1395 Planting Fields Rd, Oyster Bay, NY. Contact Maria Mucaria Stankowski 516-780-5107 or maria@longislandorchidsociety.org

June 3, 2017—Piping Rock Orchids Open House with NENYOS, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. includes speaker, Raffle and lunch. Sales and greenhouse time abound. Come and partake of this event. Park out on road., 2270 Cook Road, Glaway, NY 12074. Call for more info 518-882-9002 or visit www.pipingrockorchids.com

June 3, 2017 Northeast Judging Center – Stamford, Bartlett Arboretum and Gardens, Silver Educational Center, 151 Brookdale Road, Stamford, CT 06903 at 12:00 PM.

June 23 - 24, 2017 Amherst Orchid Society "New England Summer Orchid Fest" at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, 80 Locust St. (Rt. 9), Northampton, MA. Contact: Marc Gray, 802-348-7926 or bulbophyllum@myfairpoint.net

GROS—Greater Rochester Orchid Soc. **CTOS—Connecticut OS**
STOS—Southern Tier OS **MHOS—Mid-Hudson OS** C heck www.aos.org/events before traveling to see if there may be a local orchid event at your destination. Everything published in *Orchids* magazine is also on the web page

Beginner Talks – with Alex Shepherd are a chance for members to learn some basic information to help improve their orchid growing habits and knowledge. The programs take place before select meetings.

Here's what's we have for Beginner Talks in 2017:

October **Leaves** They provide tons of info which can help you understand your plant and what it wants

Show Off Extra Blooms

If you have plants in bloom which didn't get a chance to visit the Show Table for your moment of fame, take heart.

Alex is willing to prep photos that are emailed to her so they will be visible before the next meeting. Just email shepherd@nycap.rr.com the information.

JUNE 3, 2017 OPEN HOUSE/PICNIC at PIPING ROCK ORCHIDS

The June NENYOS meeting is scheduled for SATURDAY, JUNE 3rd 10:30am to coincide with the very popular OPEN HOUSE at PIPING ROCK ORCHIDS, 2270 Cook Rd, Galway, NY 12074. www.pipingrockorchids.com. In addition to tours through his greenhouse, Glen has countless orchids and plants for sale, (a wonderful discount table again this year).

The new owners of J & L Orchids, Easton, CT, are coming as Guest Speaker/Vendors. They will continue providing special orchids that will thrive in our cooler growing situations, plus miniatures and the pleurothallids. Glen will also add shocking and fun cultural tips, always with a sense of adventure. As it is a full day of interesting topics, good food, camaraderie, raffle and shopping opportunities, I encourage you to attend, have a good time, pick up a few hints and orchids, and support our regional growers. It's a SPEAKERS' DAY with almost no cost to us!

He's providing a variety of meats/protein, and the Society adds beverages, paper products, etc. OUR BIG PART of the bargain is to provide sumptuous salads, side dishes, desserts, and the ever necessary help during the event. Bring your own chairs. Those who sign up for a task, please arrive 9-9:30am. Glen offers a 10% discount for working NENYOS members who will receive the discount at checkout.

The sign - up sheet for volunteers and food offerings circulated at the May meeting. **If you want to sign up still—CALL JANET.**

Jobs needed include PARKING ATTENDANTS, HOSPITALITY/ WELCOME TENT, FOOD RUNNERS, FOOD MANAGER ASSISTANTS, GREENHOUSE HELP-ERS, CLEAN UP/ RECYCLE. If you cannot attend the meeting, please let us know you are coming. and indicate your culinary specialty of choice. CONTACT Janet Vinyard: roland@vinyardschoice.com or 518-673-3212.

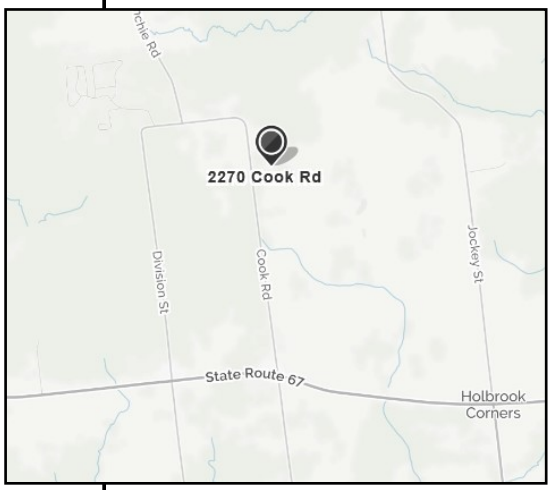
Directions: From the East, North & South—

- Travel from Exit 12 off I-87 on Rte 67 west over 3 miles.
- Turn left at the red light to stay on Rte 67 West (follow the signs)
- Travel 6 miles to Cook Road, a right hand turn (Look for NENYOS signs). **It is first right hand road after** Jockey St and the Smith Bros. Orchard. (If you get to the Stewart's Shop at corner of Rte 145 and 67— you have gone too far.)
- Piping Rock is ahead on right. Park on the road.

Directions from West -

- Travel east on Route 67.
- Turn left onto Cook Road, first left hand turn **after** intersection of Rte 145 and 67 (red light).
- Piping Rock is ahead on right. Park on the road.

GPS location: 2270 Cook Rd, Galway, NY 12074
Phone for Piping Rock—518-882-9002.



VENDORS WHO HELPED WITH THE 2016 AUCTION & Activities

Island Sun Orchids –
Karen Kimmerle; PO Box 909, Keaau, HI

Lehua Orchids
Mountain View, HI
808-968-8898
www.lehuaorchids.com

Piping Rock Orchids
2270 Cook Rd
Galway, NY 12074
518-882-9002
www.pipingrockorchids.com

Sunset Valley Orchids
Fred Clarke, 1255 Navel Place Vista, CA 92081(760) 639-6255
Www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

The Orchid Works
Rayna@the orchidworks.com
P.O. 278 Hakalau, HI 96710
wholesale and retail lists online

Walter Scheeren
44-3265 Kalopa Mauka Rd
Honokaa,HI 96727
808-775-1185
WFScheeren@juno.com

Woodstock Orchids –Elaine Grega
845 679 6531 or
woodstockorchids@gmail.com

Beginner Talk –
Home Sweet Home – Repotting Your Orchid

You can't fear repotting orchids according to Alex Shepherd, our beginner guru. It is an important tool in your arsenal for handling pests, improving plant health and adding to your collection through divisions. While you may approach with dread, it is very satisfying as you get started.

Just plan and accommodate the mess. And there will be mess…old potting material, rotted plant roots, new potting material, pots, and much of this is wet since you pre-soaked your potting media. Alex Shepherd displayed a neat table or sink top unit for containing it all.

Step 1 is to pull together your equipment and supplies. Clean pots are important. Sanitize used pots after scraping all of the schmutz off the inside. For those so inclined, you can run pots through the dishwasher on the top rack.

Sterilize your tools to prevent the spread of disease and pests. Re-sterilize between plants!

Wear disposable gloves which will protect your hands from slivers and staining from potting media.

Wash the potting media since it contains dust the orchids will not appreciate. It will also pre-wet it making the orchid happy.

Quick Directions

Water plant

Unpot plant (remove from pot, may have to use knife to unstick some of the roots which are adhering to the pot sides.

Inspect the entire plant. Look for pests or damage. Check the condition of the crown (where roots and plant top meet).

Remove old roots and clean up.

Trim any extremely long roots.

Pot the plant in new home. Work the potting mix around the plant roots and then firmly pack it into pot. You should be able to lift the pot by the plant when finished.

Stake plant if needed to prevent it from wiggling around.

<u>How do you know when to repot?</u>

Squishy media

Is stuff floating out of the bottom of the pot when you water?

Pest problem – it may not be the proper time to repot but if you are having a bug problem, repotting may help by removing eggs/larvae/bugs.

Plant is too big for pot.

You bought a new orchid and want to repot it to get a view of the plant's health and condition. Also standardizes the potting mix in your collection, important for watering.

Best time to repot (pick one):

After blooming,
Before new roots reach ½ inch,
Or when new roots reach 5-6 inches.

<u>Orchid's New Home</u> – What Kind of Pot to Use?

There are all different kinds of pots, choose what works well in your system. Remember you are trying to accommodate the ROOTS of the plant, not the LEAVES.

Most orchid pots have lots of drainage holes in the bottom of the pot. Great for moving water and pulling in air. Net pots are good for plants which want water but like to dry out fast.

When choosing a pot size, remember orchid like to be underpotted – very cramped feet. They are not like other plants and excited by lots of leg room. Most orchids react poorly. They like to be very firmly in their pot.

Potting Media – there are no right or wrong choices. Just make sure you work with what you choose.

Look at the roots – the thicker the roots, the bigger the chunks.

Thin roots – small chunks or pieces.

Watering – when you water, the movement of water through the media brings air into the pot for the plant.

<u>Tips from Crowd</u> – If you are repotting a large pot, you may want to add a small pot (clay or net) upside down in the bottom of pot to allow an airspace and keep the center of the pot from being a wet, rotting mess. The roots will grow around it and be very happy.

Donna mentioned several excellent repotting videos by Ron McHatton on the AOS (aos.org) website to help provide repotting info.

Linda also mentioned a great tip. When repotting, place a plant label in the bottom of the pot. Then if something happens to the label on top, you just have to tip the plant out to know exactly who it is!

-By Sandy Buxton II

Announcements

President Donna Wardlaw reminded the group to "Be patient. Don't put orchids out yet. Still having frost warnings."

Regarding last month's info from Fred Clarke about catasetum culture, Donna added several tips:

Pay attention.

You can kill them fast if you start watering to early.

Treat each plant as an individual. They grow at different rates. And make sure they have roots BEFORE you start watering.

Piping Rock Orchids Open House will feature a talk by the new owners of J & L Orchids in CT. This will be our **JUNE 3** meeting. See page 3 for more details.

July – no meeting
August 5– picnic at Stan & Fern Lee's, Scotia – members receive a gift plant.
September 10– co-hosting international Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting at CCE-Albany, 24 Martin Rd, Voorheesville
October 7– Tom Biggart from Granite Hills Orchids
November 4 - Annual Auction

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Orchid Lovers BEWARE!!

The recent holidays have offered a wealth of wonderous orchid plants in bloom for sale.

Discerning NENYOS members know these plants are dyed and re-bloom beautiful large white blossoms.

Extra Goodies from John Raymond and Phil Rudko

The 1st photo is of Phalaenopsis Chibae, a species from Vietnam, a moderate temp. low light grower.

JRaymond

JRaymond

The 2nd is Phalaenopsis Joy Fairy Tale "Joy" a beautiful peloric orchid indicated by the 3 petals that are modified to look like a lip.

The 3rd is Phalaenopsis Cornu-Cervi "Red" from northern India, also a species growing in moderate temps with low light.

The 4th is Phalaenopsis Modesta, another species that is found in Borneo, and is wonderfully fragrant and lasts for months.

JRaymond

JRaymond

Enjoying the beautiful spring we are having after the longest winter in years!

John & Phil

Show Table Tales

Alison Platt brought a Tolumnia. This is her first time blooming it. Spike grew for 4 months torturing and teasing her until it finally developed and opened!!

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Drew Monthie – Encyclia has been blooming for a month. Tough to stake with 2 spikes. Lives on dining room table about 3 ft from south facing window.

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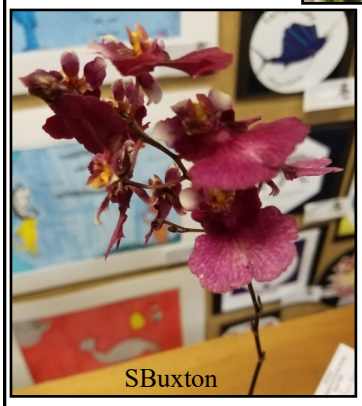
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Joyce Villa – brought in an Oncidium she got one year at picnic. Blooms every spring in her window.

Also a Psychopsis which was sold as a miniature because the bloom spike is short as opposed to the 3+ feet that is normal. Grown in east facing window.

Linda said, "With the thick leaves, you think they need lots of light. But having seen where they grow in nature, they get morning light until 10 a.m. and the rest of the day are in shade."

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Sue Labonville – Sedeirea japonica—grown in a cool aquarium in high humidity. Bought 1 year ago. First flowering for her.

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Elaine Grega brought in several mounted plants. Catt. Red Doll and a red Sophronitis. She put all of her mounted plants outside in 2016 and they have all bloomed since coming in. Made them VERY happy!

Catt. Amethyst Star – was in the last newsletter showing off a plant Elaine bought from Linda several years ago. It was still in bloom, looking wonderful! Linda said it was from a flat of plants she and Rolf bought years ago. Great for breeding, flowers last a long time, very easy to grow.

Larry Litwin brought in 3 Phals he has picked up at Aldi's and Price Chopper. While they have no names, they put on a terrific show.

Iwanagara Apple Blossom is a great blooming plant. Very good grower. Linda mentioned that if you are scared about repotting a sympodial orchid like this one, you can let it grow into a new pot and then sever the connection.

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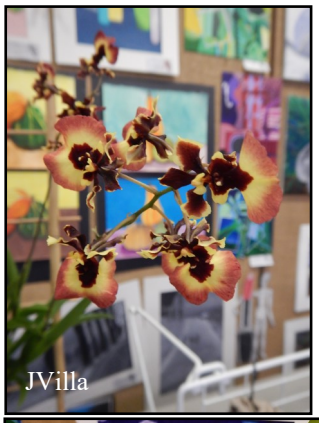
Tom Hoodack brought in an Encyclia which has been in bloom a month. Grows in bright light and waters often.

SBuxton

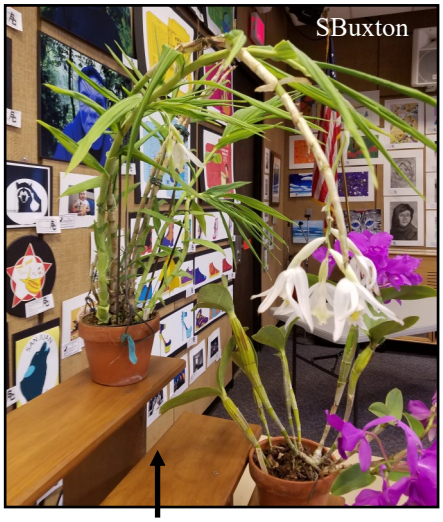
Show Table Tales continued

Karen Randall – brought in a Tolumnia volcano, the older spike opened 3 days after the April meeting. Second spike just got going.

Linda said "Don't cut the spike off after blooming. They often rebloom from side shoots on spike like Phals."



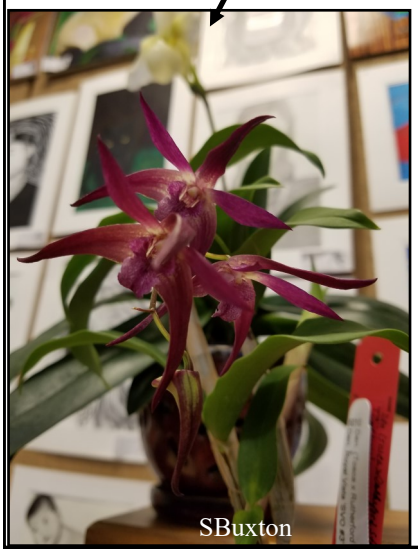
Mark Conley – brought a selection of Catt. Yellow and red. Cymbidium with a small bloom. The Sarcochilus array demonstrated the variety of colors which obviously like Mark's cool and dry growing conditions. He mentioned the Sarco's were spaghnum plugs surrounded by bark. When he divides in October, he will fix that but warned others the plugs can keep the plant too wet, if you don't pay attention.



Donna Wardlaw brought a mounted which grows in Intermediate light and waters lots. Blooms coming on several sides!

Paph. Moonstone (right) is a plant she bought from Glenn Decker which blooms 2x/yr. She provides a fair amount of sun.

Dendrobium (left) was purchased at the Nov. auction



Wake Gardner brought his Thunia bensoneae which he has had for 15 years. It doesn't look like an orchid. It is deciduous with a dormant period that starts in October. The plant begins growing in February. Likes Cattleya light, and is grown in Miracle Gro orchid mix. He divides it every couple of years.

Catt. Skinneri is another plant he has had for 15 years. Blooms regularly. Goes outside for the summer and he adds slow release fertilizer in addition to the fertilizer he waters on 1x/week.

North Eastern New York Orchid Society

NENYOS c/o S. Lee, 130 Johnson Road, Scotia, NY 12302 www.nenyos.com

NEXT MEETING
June 3, 2017
Open House at Piping Rock Orchids, 2270 Cook Road, Galway, NY

9:30 a.m. NENYOS volunteers arrive

10:30 a.m. Other Guests arrive

Sales Tables and Greenhouse open. Lots of orchid discussion, networking, sharing of tips.

Noonish Lunch **This is June meeting**.

1:45 p.m. Raffle Drawing
2:00 p.m. Speakers: J & L Orchids of CT and Glen Decker on Repotting.

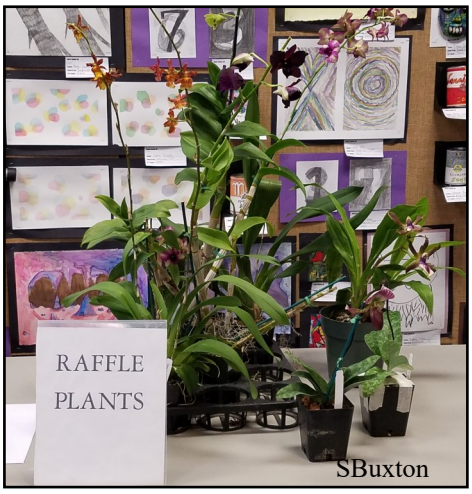
(Times are approximate. Directions inside.)

Bring a chair & dish to pass.

…..Congratulations!
May Raffle Winners:

Nancy Cole
Carole Serras
Bob Sharp
George Serras
Val Trczinski
Kim Mullinax
Michelle Gore
Nancy Cole/Mary Ellen Bielawa
Donna Wardlaw
Lisa Eash
Lew Hargett
Kim Deso

Enjoy your new plants!!



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Raffle Winners

Don't forget, Raffle winners are asked to bring a "goodie" to the next meeting (May) to help celebrate their good fortune.